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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

1 5 MAY 1985

Honorable Loretta Cornelius Acting Director Office of Personnel Management Washington, D. C. 20415

Dear Ms. Cornelius:

I am replying on behalf of Secretary Weinberger to Mr. Devine's letter of April 12 regarding the recommendation made by the House Appropriations Committee that agreement be reached on adequate and cost-effective background investigations for military, civilian, and industry employees obtaining various levels of security clearances. Mr. Devine suggested a meeting be arranged for this purpose with Secretary Weinberger, the Director of Central Intelligence, and OPM.

While the Department believes uniform investigative requirements are desirable, it does not appear to us appropriate to discuss the issue at this time. The NSDD-84 study group, under the chairmanship of the Department of Justice, is addressing itself to this issue. We believe it prudent to await the outcome of the study group deliberations, rather than tackling this matter on an ad hoc basis.

We do, in any case, appreciate OPM's continued interest in the Department's investigative program.

Sincerely.

William H. Taft, IV

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Director of Central Intelligence

On file OSD release instructions apply.

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